

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  REVIEW OF LEVEL PAYMENT PLAN RULES	DOCKET NO. NOI-03-3
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**ORDER CLOSING INQUIRY**

(Issued June 23, 2004)

On July 25, 2003, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order opening an inquiry to review the level payment plan rules found at 199 IAC 19.4(11)"e" and 20.4(12)"e." In the order, the Board indicated that there had been significant differences in the application of these rules by the utilities and that some of those interpretations resulted in monthly payments that were subject to dramatic swings. Additionally, the Board allowed Atmos Energy Corporation (Atmos) to use a rolling 12-month calculation to establish a monthly payment.

On March 31, 2004, the Board conducted a workshop to discuss the issues raised by the participants and to answer questions from the Board. The Board has considered all of the comments and issues raised by the participants in this inquiry.

On June 21, 2004, the Board issued an order in Docket No. RMU-04-5, In re: Revisions to Level Payment Plan Rules [199 IAC 19.4(11) and 19.4(12)], in which the Board proposed amendments to its level payment plan rules based upon the results of this inquiry. Notice of the proposed amendments will be published in the Iowa

Administrative Bulletin on July 7, 2004. Comments are due concerning the proposed amendments on July 27, 2004, and an oral presentation is scheduled for September 1, 2004, at 9 a.m.

Since the Board has proposed amendments to the level payment plan rules, this inquiry is concluded and this docket will be closed.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

Docket No. NOI-03-3, In re: Review of Level Payment Plan Rules, is closed.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

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/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2004.